

REMARKS

By way of the instant amendment, claims 21-23 have been cancelled and new claims 27 and 28 have been added. Thus, claims 24-28 remain for examination.

The examiner has indicated that claims 24 and 26 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed subject to the § 112 rejections being overcome. By way of the instant amendment, claim 24 has been amended in a manner consistent with the examiner's assumptions in paragraph 3 of the outstanding Office Action which have now been made explicit in claim 24. Claims 21 and 23 have been cancelled and inserted as new claims 27 and 28 which are now dependent on allowed claim 24. Claim 24 supports both the first and second metal wiring layers. Thus, it is submitted that claims 24-28 are in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 29, 2004

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